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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - MAR 16 1923 \*

BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY

WASHINGTON, D. C.

FOREST ENTOMOLOGY BRIEF 44.

RECEIVED

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January 28, 1919.

THE POPLAR TENT MAKER
(Melalopha inclusa Huebn.)
An Enemy of Poplar and Willow Trees.

HOW DESTRUCTIVE. This insect sometimes occurs in sufficient numbers to defoliate the trees it attacks, especially where there are only a few trees in a locality. Where there is a large number of trees little or no damage occurs.

EVIDENCE OF INFESTATION. Wholly or partly skeletonized or eaten leaves with here and there folded leaves, lined with silk and fastened securely to the twigs. These folded leaf tents often contain, during the day, many closely placed dark caterpillars, about 1 to 1½ inch long, covered with whitish hairs and bearing four honey-yellow lines on the back and two high pointed tubercles on each of the fourth and eleventh segments. The caterpillars remain in the tents during the greater part of the day, coming out to feed at intervals.

HABITS. There are two generations annually, so that the caterpillars are found on the trees during May and June and again in August and September, while the adults appear during the month preceding. It hibernates in the chrysalis stage in a loosely spun cocoon between partially folded leaves on the ground.

REMEDY. Where conditions warrant it, infested trees should be sprayed with lead arsenate as described in the accompanying Brief.

A. D. HOPKINS,

Forest Entomologist.

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